AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A container for holding foodstuff, said container comprising a hollow body defining an internal space, and wherein said body has :

i) an access aperture to allow access to the internal space; and wherein the access aperture is sealed with an access lid; and wherein said access lid is connected by ~~dampened~~ damped hinging means to said body; and wherein

ii) a suction cup affixed thereto which is adapted to hold the access lid in an open position for a pre-determined period of time by forming a breakable seal with said access lid, wherein the body includes a charging aperture to allow the charging of foodstuff into the container, wherein said charging aperture is sealed with a charging lid which defines a funnel shape in an open position.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A container according to claim [[2]] 1wherein the charging lid comprises two elements that over-lap each other.

4. (Original) A container according to claim 3 wherein the upper element forms an airtight seal with the body of the container.

5. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 1 wherein the body has an interior floor that is shaped to complement the shape of a scoop used to dispense foodstuff held in the container ~~so that there is no "dead space"~~.

6. (Previously presented) A container according to claim 1 wherein the body of the container has a front, a rear, two sides and a base.

7. (Previously presented) A container according to claim 1 wherein the access aperture is located in the front of the body and the charging aperture is preferably located in the rear of the body.

8. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 1 wherein the ~~dampened~~ damped hinging means preferably comprises a ~~dampening~~ damping means which co-operates with a pinion wherein said pinion interacts with an arm which is attached to the access lid, said arm having a rack on a longitudinal edge.

9. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 8 wherein the rotation of the pinion is resisted by the ~~dampening~~ damping means, which preferably contains a substance with high viscosity such as silicon grease.

10. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 8 wherein the ~~dampening~~ damping means and pinion are housed within a housing.

11. (Original) A container according to claim 10 wherein the housing is preferably defined by a cylindrical depression on the side of the body.

12. (Currently amended) A container according to claim 8 wherein the pinion and associated ~~dampening~~ damping means are preferably mounted on a carrier within the housing.

13. (Original) A container according to claim 11 wherein the carrier device comprises a disk including a plurality of circular apertures, each spaced at a different distance from the circumference of the disk so that the disk may be used for different sized pinions.

14. (Original) A container according to claim 13 wherein the disk comprises three circular apertures.

15. (Original) A container according to claim 1 wherein the base of the body is preferably adapted to be attached to a display rack.

16. (Original) A container according to claim 1 wherein the body of the container has flat sides so that a plurality of containers may be stacked side-by-side.

17. (Original) A container according to claim 1 wherein the top of the body of the container is curved.

18. (Original) A container according to claim 1 wherein the body of the container is adapted to house a scoop below the access lid.

19. (Original) A container according to claim 17 wherein the access lid forms an air-tight seal with the container in the closed position.